

REMARKS

The application has been amended as needed so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

In the course of this revision, the minor informalities, which were helpfully pointed out by the Examiner in his Official Action in the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4, have all been corrected except for Item "g". In this regard, the Primary Examiner's helpful suggestions have been adopted with thanks. With respect to Item "g", it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claim 14 originally appeared in the parent application Serial No. 09/831,950 which specified that the heavy metal comprises copper and/or lead. The expression "and/or" was previously objected to by the former Examiner handling the parent application, whereupon the conventionally accepted equivalent terminology --at least one of copper and lead-- was substituted therefor. It is respectfully submitted that such a recitation is intended to cover the heavy metal being either copper, or lead, or copper and lead. Such terminology is neither vague, nor indefinite, within the meaning of 35 USC §112, second paragraph. However, should the Primary Examiner wish to reinstate the language that the heavy metal comprises copper and/or lead, he is kindly requested to do so by Examiner's Amendment, in order to expedite allowance of this application.

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as it allegedly failed to enable a source of elemental sulphur, and a source of liquid. By the present amendment, it will be seen that the helpful suggestions advanced by the Primary Examiner in his Official Action have been adopted with thanks. Thus, the claims no longer recite "a source of".

Claims 1-14 were also rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. It is believed that with the present amendment, the formal criticisms levied against these claims have been fully addressed, in the manner helpfully suggested in the Official Action. Thus, it will be seen that the term "also" which appeared in claim 5 has been deleted.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance on the basis of amended claims 1-14 are accordingly earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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